IN THE SPECIFICATIONS:

Please amend the paragraph of the Specification at page 16, lines 10-15 as shown below:

—Applicants have discovered that the borders of a regular expression, which can be used to divide the regular expression into a plurality of sub-expressions, occur at the location of a predetermined sequence of regular expression metacharacters. In particular, the borders occur at each occurrence of the metacharacters ".*". The "." regular expression metacharacter is defined to match any one character. The "*" regular expression metacharacter is defined to match the preceding element zero, one, or more times. —